

**Developmental Disabilities Council Minutes
Courtyard Marriott, Federal Way
January 21, 2005**

Present

George Walker (Chair), Bill Anderson, BJ Flaherty, Lori Flood, Vickie Foster, Larry Garman, Suzanne Gries, Mike Hatch, Sherri Huwe, Alphonso Lee, Clara Link, Sara McQueed, Michael Raymond, Mary Jo Sizemore, Laethan Wene, Janet Adams (DDD), Sherrie Brown (UAP), Lou Colwell (OSPI), Joelle Brouner (P&A), Diana McMaster (MAA), Connee Bush (DVR)

Absent

Kim Blume, Erin Platts, Carol Shaw, Julie Williamson-Purdy, Diana Zottman, Marijo Olson (CTED), Angie Brothers (DOH), David Kludt (MHD), Patty McDonald (ADS)

Staff

Ed Holen, Clare Billings, Donna Patrick, Linda Walling, Eva Rooks, Stephanie Benfield, Cathy Townley

Call to Order/Introductions

The meeting was called to order and introductions were made.

Minutes

Corrections: List Diana McMaster as absent, and change MAR to Marr in the P&A report.

Motion: Council accept the November 2004 minutes as corrected. The motion carried.

Chair's Remarks

George reminded Council members to fill out their pink sheets for the March meeting and return them to Linda.

George shared that this is an exciting time as far as resources for people with disabilities in the state. This is because of a new governor, a lot of new legislators and a new head of the Department of Social and Health Services.

He stated that Ed will be talking about the only budget that the Council can look at so far is Governor Locke's budget. The new governor will be coming out with her budget soon. George wants to make sure that the disability movement does not lose support or lose people in the transfer of power that will be happening at the state level.

Executive Director's Report

Ed introduced Michael Rogers to the Council. Michael is a new staff person who is on loan from DSHS he will be working on various projects.

Ed shared that the Disabilities Legislative Reception was very successful. It is the first time a Governor has attended the reception. She spent half an hour talking to self-advocates and others. Several Council members were able to speak with her. A number of legislators attended, along with various other organizations. Ed thanked Donna and others for all their hard work.

He stated that the Council Staff Report will be mailed to everyone in the next week.

Staff are still exploring options for hosting the National DD Association meeting in the fall of 2006. The meeting will host between two and three hundred people. Ed and Cathy have been looking at hotels and collecting information; so far, the best option appears to be the Downtown Sheraton in Seattle. It is in a central location. All the meeting rooms are on the same floor and there is easy access. Cathy is looking into nearby hotels for overflow sleeping rooms. She is also looking at nearby restaurants and shuttle services from the airport. The Council will submit a bid to host the meeting.

There is a national public policy conference, "Partnership for Employment" February 29th through March 2nd in Washington DC. Sherri H., Michael R. and Larry will be attending for the Council.

In September of 2005, there will be an "Alliance for Full Participation" national meeting. Its purpose is to re-energize the DD movement across the country in light of recent decisions made by the Supreme Court. There will be a state team to promote activities leading up to and following the summit. Michael Rogers is on the planning team. If anyone is interested in participating, let either Ed or Michael know.

Ed shared that we have been requested to host an information booth at the National Conference of State Legislatures in Seattle this summer. He would like anyone interested in helping out at the booth to let him know. They would be handing out information to legislators.

Ed reviewed the Council's 2005 budget. The 2002 budget was fully expended by September 2004; the 2003 budget is fully obligated in contracts to be spent by September 2005; the 2004 budget has no changes and is on track, all according to federal law. He gave an overview of the 2005 budget, adjusted to reflect a \$2,000 reduction from the federal grant.

State Budget Update

Ed reviewed Governor Locke's 2005-2007 budget proposal. See reading 05-01.

George has written a letter to Governor Locke regarding the Council's maintenance of effort. The current amount is \$270,000 and Governor Locke has only allocated \$106,000, which is not enough to receive federal dollars.

George announced that Elaine Wilson, one of the two Georgia women who were plaintiffs in the historic Olmstead case, has passed away.

George shared that the legislative briefing booklets that were handed out at the briefing were really helpful.

Ed reported that the Revenue Forecast Council is trying to project how much revenue the state is going to bring in this year. The Caseload Forecast Council projects the number of people needing services in entitlement programs. We are supporting a bill to have the Caseload Forecast Council project the number of people requiring DD services within the next two years. The mini-assessment of any current or new people coming into the division should help.

Medication Management Presentation

Kathy Watson made a presentation on the medication module she developed as a part of the Health and Wellness Advocacy Project, which was previously led by Doug Cook. The project is funded by the Council through CHDD as before, and has additional support from Northwest Center for Kathy's time. The medication module is designed to offer information leading to safer use of medications by parents, providers and self advocates. The program addresses some basics about medication categories and names, how to advocate for safe medication use, and then focuses primarily on psychoactive medications and how to recognize their adverse effects. Critique and recommendations were provided by RHC pharmacist, Steven Williams.

<h2><u>Workgroups and Committees</u></h2>

Community Supports and Housing Workgroup

Sara reported that the workgroup discussed the SSP Report recommendations.

There were also presentations on:

- DDD Residential Certification Process by Sheldon Plummer.
- The Council's focus group recommendations to DD based on their analysis of the Core Indicator's report by Janet.
- Home Care Quality Authority Board by Lori Flood.

Health and Education Workgroup

Sherrie B. reported that the workgroup discussed:

- Reauthorizing IDEA
- Bills in the state legislature regarding health and education issues
- Potential performance target issues

They also had a presentation on the Keys Beacon Project by Pat Steinberg of the Washington Education Association.

Self-Determination and Employment

MJ reported that the Workgroup discussed:

- The big picture work plan
- The Rotary Club video outcomes
- DVR employment outcomes

Mike Rogers and Ed talked to the workgroup about self-advocate focus groups to be held around the state.

Governance Committee

Suzanne reported that the Committee discussed:

- Conference attendance
- Executive Director Evaluation form

Motion: The Council approve the Support Person Code of Conduct Policy. Motion carried with no abstentions.

Motion: The Council approve the Reasonable Accommodations Policy. Motion carried with Vickie abstaining.

Public Policy Committee

Sherrie H. reported that the committee discussed:

- Committee operations
- Weekly legislative conference call
- Legislative reception
- Federal issues
- State legislative bills

The Committee brought forward two public policy recommendations for Council guidance. The recommendations are advisory in nature to staff.

Recommendation #1: To replace “Disability ombudsman” on the Council’s Legislative Issues with “Ensure a stable provider workforce”.

Agency representatives wanted it on the record that they did not participate in approving a legislative position. Abstaining: Janet, Diana M., Joelle, Connee, and Sherri B.

Recommendation #2: The Council oppose the merge of the Home Care Quality Authority into DSHS.

Abstaining: Janet, Diana M., Joelle, Connee, Sherri B and Alphonso

Membership

Vickie reported that the committee discussed:

- Attendance policy
- Recruitment (applications due in April, recruiting for five people)
- Development Day (Creating Unity through Diversity, Dinner on Wednesday night)
- Mentor program

<h3><u>Agency Reports</u></h3>

Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)

Janet updated the Council on the progress of the Mini-Assessment and provided copies of the questions that are being tested. She updated the Council on ADSA’s budget request and the process that will be happening over the next several months. In addition, Janet provided two alerts to Council members on Child Care Resources and Earned Income Tax Credits. She also gave the Council information on the Residential Rates study that is moving forward at this time.

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)

Connie reported:

- Over the last 12 months, 2,951 customers with developmental disabilities received DVR services;
- DVR's state match was fully funded in the Governor's budget, including the Federal COLA for the 05-07 biennium;
- DVR's request for \$16 M state dollars only was not funded in the Governor's budget.
- Both the State Independent Living Council and the Washington State Rehabilitation Council have been re-established and both held their first quarterly meeting in October 2004; and

- DVR's Priority 1, Priority 2 and Priority 3 waiting lists now total close to 12,000 individuals. The Priority 1 waiting list is now being cleared at more regular intervals.

The passage of IDEA presents a very real dilemma for DVR in that DVR is required to be involved in the IEP process at age 16.

Medical Assistance Administration (MAA)

Diana reported on pending legislation and budget issues:

- 1) Healthcare for Workers with Disabilities (HWD) program is scheduled to be cut in proposed budget. Currently, there are 400 people enrolled in HWD.
- 2) Governor Gregoire has indicated that Medicaid Children's premiums will be delayed. They were scheduled to begin in July of 2005.
- 3) Children's eligibility will return to the twelve month certification period versus the current six month period.

She stated that they are working on the Medicare Modernization Act requirement, including the "part D", Medicare Drug pharmacy card. They are continuing to proceed with the Medicaid Integration Project (WMIP) in Snohomish. The start date for enrollment was January 2005.

University Centers

Sherrie reported that the University is making juvenile justice a focus of concern.

Protection and Advocacy (P&A)

Joelle reported that WPAS is concerned about maintaining consumer/employer input about the quality and training of the services offered by providers. However, P&A has yet to take a stand on Governor Locke's proposal to merge the HCQA into DSHS.

Joelle has accepted a new position with the Rehabilitation Council as their Executive Director. She has really enjoyed working with the Council. WPAS will be having a new representative at the March meeting.

With that, the meeting was adjourned.